

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 11-12, and 16-17 remain pending in this application after this Amendment. Claims 1, 11, and 16 are independent. In light of the amendments and remarks contained herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-2, 11-12, and 16-17 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated *Maeda* (JP 08-096493); rejected claims 10, 15, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Maeda* in view of *Kannan et al.* (USP 5,423,045); and rejected claims 1-2, 10-12, 15-17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Uryu* (USP 6,542,186) in view of *Matsuo* (USP 5,179,505) in view of *Kannan et al.* Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 11, and 16 to include the elements of claims 10, 15, and 20, respectively and further to recite a “predetermined time shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control”. These amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner’s rejection, but merely to timely advance prosecution of the present application.

Prior Art Rejections

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite, *inter alia*, an electronic camera wherein the controller has a timer for measuring the elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master witch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control while the detector does not detect that the lid is closed.

The Examiner relies on the teachings of *Kannan et al.* to teach this claim element. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that *Kannan et al.* discloses in Figure 5 wherein if a camera is in a normal mode it can be switched to a standby state by either a period of inactivity or by performing an event to cause the electronics to go into a standby state. The Examiner further asserts that *Kannan et al.* discloses that if electronics are in a standby state for a predetermined

time, then the power is fully turned off cited to column 5, lines 39-53. The Examiner concludes it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of the cited references in order to realize a quicker start-up time and/or to conserve power. Applicant respectfully maintains that the teachings of *Kannan et al.* are insufficient to cure the deficiencies of the cited art to render the pending claim, as amended, obvious.

The disclosure of *Kannan et al.* is directed to a system for distributing power management in portable computers. As disclosed in column 5, lines 39-53, *Kannan et al.* discloses in the standby or sleep state, the system appears to be off to the user, however, there is certain system components which are powered and the system will immediately resume it's normal operation if requested to do so. If not, the system will automatically transition to the zero power state after a given period of time.

However, there is no teaching or suggestion in *Kannan et al.* that is directed to when a controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time **shorter than a time for an automatic power-off control while the detector does not detect that the lid is closed**. As neither of the other cited references teach or suggest this claimed element, Applicant maintains that none of the cited references by the Examiner teach or suggest this claim element and thus, claim 1, as amended, is not obvious over the references as cited. As such, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejection be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based upon it's dependency on claim 1. It is further respectfully submitted that claims 11 and 16 contain elements similar to those disclosed above with regard to claim 1 and thus claims 11 and 16, together with the claims dependent thereon, are not obvious over the references as cited.

Conclusion

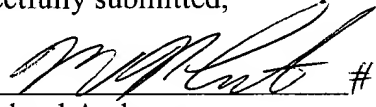
In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinnet (Reg. No. 52,327) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

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